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Catalog of Recent Incidents in Refugee Camps on Rwanda Borders

- o Zaire - Goma Camps: Militia activity and security threats in the new camp at Katale have forced two recent evacuations of expatriate staff. UNHCR postponed refugee registration indefinitely due to threats against expatriates. The militia is seeking to control commodity distribution in both Katale and Kibumba camps.
- o Intimidation of refugees also continues, including killings in the camps. A number of refugees (identified as boy scouts) who were helping would-be returnees to board transport were killed in Katale camp in early October.
- o Significant numbers of ex-FAR troops disappeared from their main camp in late September. While some reappeared in Bukavu and Tanzania, the bulk apparently remain just west of Goma. Estimates of overall ex-FAR troop strength remain at 16,000 to 22,000. Many of these retain arms. There is some evidence of training activities taking place.
- o Zaire - Bukavu Camps: Continuing influxes of refugees forced a cutback to half rations of food starting the week of October 2. NGO personnel were concerned about violent reaction from refugees.
- o While no evidence of a mass movement of ex-FAR from Goma to Bukavu was found, NGOs report that troops are visible in the camps; UNHCR and NGOs insist that many of these are armed and willing to use their weapons.
- o Relief workers report a high level of violence, including many killings, in the camps. At least one relief organization was been forced to temporarily withdraw from Bukavu because of threats against its personnel.
- o Tanzania - Ngara and Karagwe Districts: Refugees moved into Tanzania at the rate of over 1,000 per day during August and September; most recent arrivals are reportedly coming from northern Burundi. UNHCR estimates that under 10% of the refugees in Tanzania will return in the next three years.
- o A number of serious security incidents have occurred in Tanzanian camps recently. On September 29, police used tear gas to disperse a crowd of several thousand protesting the arrest of a Rwandan refugee. Some NGOs temporarily pulled out of the camp as a result of that incident.

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- o Lack of food in the pipeline has forced WFP to cut food rations in half for several weeks; water rations are also below minimum standards. NGOs fear additional unrest as a result of shortages. Rains are also contributing to the growing emergency situation in the camps.
- o Burundi: According to news sources, officials in Burundi are blaming ex-Rwandan army troops with fueling ethnic hatred in the north of that country. Extremist Hutu gunmen identified by military sources as ex-FAR clashed with the Burundi army October 18 in an encounter that left 20 dead.

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FYI - Name was changed after (last # added)
after I cleared/committed
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